

FOCUS

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Outstanding Community Worker Honoured

by Billroy Powell

Saturday, August 8, 1992, was an evening filled with pride and accomplishments. Over 450 persons, members and friends of the Jamaican Canadian Association, were present to celebrate 30 years of commitment and dedicated service to Jamaicans and the wider Caribbean community in Metro Toronto and adjacent municipalities.

Karl Fuller, JCA's President, praised those who had the vision 30 years ago to form an association in Toronto, an action which, incidentally, coincided with Jamaica's Independence. He briefly explained the Association's involvement in the Black community during 30 years, with emphasis on the delivery of social services. Mr. Fuller emphasized the fact that Jamaicans are one proud people. "We must stand tall, and those of us who hold the torch are recommitting ourselves to growth and representing our country in a most honourable way."

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Dr. Mavis Burke poses for the camera after receiving her Award. To her right is Jamaica's Trade Commissioner to Canada Margariette St. Juste, who made the presentation on behalf of the JCA.

Guest speaker, the Hon. Robert Pickersgill, Minister of Public Utilities, Transport and Energy in Jamaica, impressed upon Jamaicans the great challenge our youth face in the future. "It's a battle against drugs, against violence, against discrimination, against underachievement. The Minister argued that the battle can only be won through sustained vigilance by all members of our community. "We must prevent the lawless few from jeopardizing the achievement of the many."

In commenting briefly on Jamaica's economic situation, the Minister said new jobs and more opportunities are needed. Therefore, he urged Canadians to take advantage of investment opportunities in Jamaica created by an increasingly liberalized economy.

The auspicious occasion was used to honour Dr. Mavis Burke, an outstanding educator, public servant and community worker who has for over 20 years rendered invaluable service to the Jamaican and Caribbean community in Canada and also in her native land, Jamaica.

Jamaica's Trade Commissioner to Canada, Margariette St. Juste, presented Dr. Burke with the Public Service Award from the JCA in recognition of her contribution.

Dr. Burke was the sole awardee at the Grand Gala Ball this year. This reflects the deep sense of appreciation the JCA has for those who have given of themselves freely and without remuneration towards the development of our community.

EDITORIAL

**Honest hard working
Jamaicans constitute a majority**

Recently, one of Canada's largest newspaper, the GLOBE AND MAIL published a series of articles about Jamaicans accusing us of crime and violence. The articles "Island Crime Wave Spills Over", "The Twisted Arm of the Law" and "Identifying the Problem" seemed designed to have every one believe that all Jamaicans are murderers and criminals especially, on our youth.

After reading those articles one has to ask this question. Does the dominant hierarchy of this country intend to use their mouthpiece to generate support among the wider public to discredit Jamaicans? In the previous Infocus's editorial, it was mentioned that the powers-that-be don't want change. Therefore, seeing Jamaicans in the forefront advocating for basic change in the way the systems work (education, security, political and justice) clearly upsets them.

The GLOBE AND MAIL chose to publish those articles at a time when the Ontario Government has decided to accelerate implementation of legislation which should pave the way for employment equity, establish a Anti-Racism Secretariat in the Ministry of Citizenship, request report each time a police officer pulls his firearm, and when Premier

Bob Rae is committed to implementing most of the recommendations from the Stephen Lewis Report. It's obviously a deliberate attempt to destroy the credibility of Jamaicans, which they hope will lead to Ontario's government losing confidence in us as a people; and with Jamaicans discredited, the struggle loses its momentum. The government can go back on its promise to change the way the social, political and economic systems work.

Just in case the authorities in this country and in particular this province do not grasp the idea that Jamaicans are not easily dissuaded from achieving their goals, it is timely to suggest to them that they take the example of Ben Johnson's come-back as a refresher to their memory, despite the fact he did not win a medal at the Olympics.

Jamaicans are offended and insulted when people who refused to learn about or understand us make generalized negative remarks about us. Honest hard working Jamaicans constitute a majority; no other people is more committed and dedicated to the improvement and preservation of human lives than as are.

We repudiate injustices anywhere in the world that it's apparent and especially when it affects the lives of Black people. We Blacks have endured more suffering, pains, humiliation and exploitation than any other race under the sun.

Therefore, our history leaves us with no other alternative but to attempt to redeem ourselves, not just Jamaicans but all Black people. We will never desist from the struggle of equal rights and justice for all, despite negative media coverage, adversities, sabotage and sell out by even our own. Our understanding of the way the world's political, social and economic systems work does not allow us to dwell on pettiness and trivialities, but to rise above all odds.

29 YEARS OF SERVICE to the Black Community

Jamaican Canadian Association Services

Community Development -- focusses on networking, sharing of information and resources with others in the interests of the community.

Settlement Services -- provides information, orientation and settlement services to landed immigrants or holders of Minister's permits.

Caribbean Youth and Family Services -- provides counselling, employment preparation, socio-cultural support and leadership for Black youth aged 12-15, living primarily in the Jane-Finch neighbourhood. Coordinates the PAL program, which matches adult volunteers with young people in need of or seeking guidance.

Lawrence Heights Youth Program -- a satellite program, integrating personal development with cultural reinforcement. Runs the Afrocentric Achievement Society, the Shoot for a Career program (combining sports with academics), and Project ROJ (Reading on the Job).

For more information on the above services, please contact the JCA Office, 1621 Dupont Street, Toronto, Ontario M6P 3S8, telephone 535-4476; or the CYFS Office, 2065 Finch Ave. W., Suite 102, Downsview, Ontario M3N 2V7, telephone 740-1558.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

by Karl Fuller

This Summer has been one of the busiest in the association's history. The 30th anniversary activities, jointly of the JCA and our nativeland Jamaica, required considerable amount of time, energy and cooperation from a large number of dedicated individuals. First there was the Flag Raising Ceremony at City Hall on Sunday, August 2, 1992, followed by the church service at St. Michael and All Angel's Church. This Ecumenical service was well attended - in fact it was more a celebration as there were a number of chorale pieces by the Seventh Day Adventist Chorale Group, a solo by Mr. Rudolph Dixon, then a very appropriate sermon by the Reverend Frank Gabourel, who spent his high school and early working years in Jamaica and, in fact, knew and was familiar with things Jamaicans and the Jamaican people. The events climaxed with the Gala Ball at the Inn on the Park Hotel, at which the Hon Robert Pickersgill, Minister of Public Utilities, Transport and Energy, represented the Government of Jamaica. A special award was made to Mavis Burke for outstanding community service.

The evening was a splendid affair and everyone I have heard from reports that not only did they have a good time, but probably it was the best function they attended in this city for some time

We were engaged also in some major employment programmes - the Summer Start Programme funded by Canada Employment and Immigration Commission provided

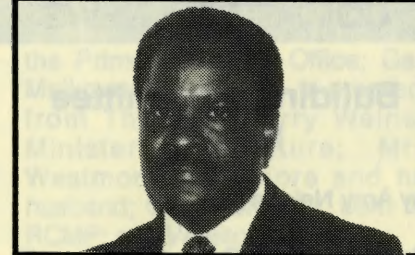
for employment for 58 individuals at Jane Finch and Lawrence Heights. The new Job Ontario Youth Programme, sponsored by the Government of Ontario, targeted Black youths and provided a welcome opportunity to employ 344 youths between the ages of 15 and 24.

After 8 weeks, the programme terminated August 28. The feedback from the participants and employers have been overwhelmingly positive. A sample list of larger employers include the IBM, CIBC, The Hudson Bay Co., Revenue Canada and many others. I am pleased, particularly of the many black businesses that participated in the programme.

We commend the Ontario Government for its recognition of the employment needs of young Blacks and its commitment to do something about it.

We continue to monitor the implementation of the Stephen Lewis Report. Most of the Community meetings are held at the JCA Centre, and I have been actively involved in many of them. You will recall that time limits were attached to the implementation of the recommendations. Areas being dealt with include the criminal Justice System: the Laws relating to use of Force by the Police, Bail Systems, Incarceration, how discretion is applied at times of arrest the Jury System, etc.

Other individuals are meeting regularly with the Asst. Deputy Minister of the Anti-Racism Secretariat, and a series of specific



recommendations are being developed.

A panel of community representatives will be meeting with the Attorney General and the Minister of Citizenship on August 31, to indicate our expectations and to hear their positions on all of these matters.

The educational system is being reviewed by a committee of high-profile Black educators. Erma Collins sits with this Committee and provides on-going reports to the Board.

We have been monitoring and, in fact, responding to the anti-Jamaican sentiments being expressed by the media. In consort with the National Council of Jamaicans, we have provided an appropriate response. In that regard, we met with a panel of editors of major newspapers and TV Stations to voice our disgust at the style and content of these negative presentations.

At the same time, we are poised to

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For more information on how you can contribute, or to join the Fundraising Committee, call 535-4476.

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COMMITTEE NEWS

Building Committee Report

by Amy Nelson

Your Building Committee is still functioning, even though not as well as we anticipated. Our meetings are held every third Tuesday at 6:30pm.

We have received complaints with respect to certain areas of the building and we have investigated them. We make regular inspections and endeavour to correct the shortcomings on a priority basis as much as possible, given the availability of funds.

We have outgrown the facilities and

our relocation is very much on the minds of members.

Members can be assured that the relocation committee is still in effect and we will be informing you as soon as any progress has been made.

The carpet for the stairs and upper floors will be laid by the time this newsletter reaches you. We hope the work will be done to everyone's satisfaction.

- Repairs has been carried out on some of the equipment in the kitchen.

- The cooler in the bar is defective. We will get an estimate soon and decide whether to repair or replace it. If there are members with that type of expertise or who know of others who can assist, would you be so kind to inform us, so that we may be advised of the most economical course we should take.

We are asking for your cooperation whenever the building is used; please take an interest in leaving it clean and tidy. It helps when someone come to look at it for rental. It is important to keep in mind that the caretaker is not here all day, neither is he here everyday. In addition, you should not forget that the building is ours; and in order to maintain or improve our equity, we must care it.

Education Committee Report

by Erma Collins

Post Secondary Education - is it An Avenue to Success? That is the theme of the educational conference planned for October 31. Some outstanding educators, community workers, and business people have already been lined up. The conference promises to be quite motivational. Please check to see if you have already marked this on your calendar. If you are a parent, teenager or concerned citizen, this conference is for you.

Those of you who indicated and interest at the last quarterly meeting will soon be contacted by Winnie Green about the final plans for our trip to stratford on September 13. The play, H.M.S. PINAFORE, has had excellent reviews: "PINAFORE deserves a 21-gun salute" (Hamilton Spectator); "an occasion for jubilation" (Southam News); "a pleasure from top to bottom" (Globe and Mail); "five stars out of five" (London Free Press).

We are willing and interested in your participation. Call us; express to us your concerns; that is the only way we can work and grow together.

Twelve Things To Remember

1. The Value of Time
2. The Success of Perseverance
3. The Pleasure of Working
4. the Dignity of Simplicity
5. The Worth of Character
6. The Power of Kindness
7. The Influence of Example
8. The Obligation of Duty
9. The Wisdom of Economy
10. The virtue of Patience
11. The Improvement of Talent
12. The Joy of Originality

The Education Committee continues to work with the Black Educators' Working Group. It is chaired by Councillor Bev Salmon; Zanana Akande is the groups liaison with the Minister of Education. Among other things, the group (as well as JCA's Education Committee) has submitted comments on the education section and recommendations of the Stephen Lewis report; recommended anti-racist education as a condition of certification for Ontario teachers; submitted criteria and names for the selection of a proposed Assistant Deputy Minister of anti-racist education.

On October 3, 1992, the Ujamaa African People's organization will again stage the Eva Smith Bursary Awards, at the JCA Centre. The bursaries, worth \$750 each, will be awarded to students going on to or already engaged in post secondary education. The specific groups being targeted are people who are in prison or have been paroled, single parents, and high-school graduates who have been accepted by a post secondary institution. For more information, you may phone Ujamaa at 490-0628.

JCA Welcomes All New Members for 1992

by Barbara Thomas

Monica Gordon, Joan White, Bunny Jackson, Everil Williams Herbert Grossett, Luke Eskins, Miriam Gordon, Dorothy Davis, Karlene Thompson, Clarence Issacs, Victor Tomlinson, Heron Kiplin, Josiana Walker, Delores Davidson, Paul Milbourn, Rebecca Miller, Georgiana Bedword, Shirley Tutsson, Bernie Johnson & Family, Sigis Bennett, Jeff Bennett, Marvet Reid, and Loretta Duncan.

Social Committee Report

By Norma Larro

Flag Raising

We had a good attendance at the Flag Raising this year. Several members of the mainstream press were present and that in itself was a surprise. We had coverage both on TV and print; some of you may have seen the articles already.

On hand to assist us was our President, Karl Fuller, as Master of Ceremonies; Lloyd Wilks, Acting Consul General; Carolyn Warren, JIS Officer; Margarietta St. Juste, Jamaica Trade Commissioner, who by the time you read this will have been re-assigned to New York for six months (who is next you are asking?); our own Dr. John Brooks; and many other friends and members of the Association who came out to witness this very memorable milestone in our history. It seems all the events are experiencing increased numbers, and I am proud to report that more and more of you are coming out to the events.

The Church Service

We had excellent attendance for this event. It was good to see so many of you there, and we hope you enjoyed the program that the planning committee worked like beavers to put together for your enjoyment. If you did; tell us, if you did not, tell us anyway. A little constructive criticism never hurts anyone.

Thanks to the following who helped to make the event a success: The Seventh Day Adventist Chorale and Dr. Smith, for their wonderful renditions; Mr. Rudolph Dixon, the soloist; the officiating clergies Canon John E. Erb, Rev. Frank Gabourel (who delivered the

Sermon), Rev. Orlando Holloway, and Rev. Gene Archer.

My congratulation to all the other participants throughout the program and later at the reception, the members, Board Members and volunteers who pitched in and helped to make it happen; to Margarietta St. Juste, Winston Roach, Hilret Cato and Hyacinth Wilson, the project co-ordinators. I cannot possibly mention everyone, but to all of you who came out, supported and helped, we thank you heartily.

Independence Gala

This was, of course, the final of the trio of events centered around Independence. We planned something different for the 30th and I hope it met with your expectation. It was meant to be more than a Dinner Dance and I think we achieved that.

It was indeed a "glittering affair," as was quoted in the media, although many were apprehensive because they did not quite know what to make of this "JCA thing"; but those that braved it and came to witness were pleasantly surprised. I have even heard it said the evening was well worth the price, and a lot more.

The price came in good because we were able to get our entertainers to work with us, enabling us to pull it off. Nnever mind some very tough negotiations that went on, we did it all for you.

The Association has gained immeasurable GOODWILL as result of the success of this function. We have made some new friends and have re-kindled some old relationships and now people have a new respect for the JCA and want to work with us on future projects. We will have to do something to take advantage of this momentum.

Some of the people on hand to help make the evening special were Alan Redway, bringing a message from

the Prime Minister's Office; Gary Malkowske, bringing a message from The Hon Gerry Weiner, Minister of Culture; Mrs. Westmoreland Traore and her husband; Corpl. Crawley, from the RCMP; and Winston Kong.

Our Keynote speaker, The Hon Robert Pickeringill, had a captive audience with his update of happenings and events in Jamaica.

Dr. Mavis Burke, our awardee, was excited at being selected by "her own" to be honoured and was truly and overwhelmed.

I think the Association can be proud of this year's celebrations. It did not leave us in the red; and, in fact, we made some money. The net profit after all expenses paid amounts to \$3,089.29.

Special thanks to Sandra Whiting and the entertainment sub-committee of Margarietta St. Juste, Barbara Theobalds, Henry Patrick and yours truly for putting together a great entertainment package; to Sandra again for MC-ing while acting as entertainment director. A job well done!

To Raphaelita Walker and Herman Stewart who sold the raffle tickets which brought in over \$1,000.00, great effort; to Fam's Travel for donating the ticket to raffle; to Barbara Thomas whose efforts secured the Hedonism part of the door prize; to Margarietta St. Juste who wrestled those two tickets from a reluctant Air Canada; to Appleton Rum for providing the complimentary rum punch; to the JCA Board, staff, members and volunteers who continue to support and promote all our efforts, taking the Association on the road to success.

Thanks to all our corporate sponsors, who either purchased tables or purchased advertisement in our program. They made it happen for us again, and we appreciate their support.



Volunteers and Children of JCA's Saturday Morning Tutoring Programme.

JCA's Saturday Morning Tutoring Program

by Billroy Powell

Given the high rate of school dropouts among Black students, the Jamaican Canadian Association initiated, in January 1992, a tutoring program to assist children in the development of their reading, writing and mathematical skills.

In our assessment, the children have shown signs of improvement; and most of all, there is a high level of interest and enthusiasm. Since the beginning of the program, there are students who have never; showed up late and if they are going to be absent, their parents would call in to inform us in advance.

The volunteers are encouraged by

the students' keen interest and attendance, which motivate them to continue being a part of the program.

For the summer, we adjusted the program to provide something extra to the children. They were taken out to visit a number of places such as the Zoo, Science Centre, Ontario Place, etc.

Regular tutoring will once again begin on the Third Saturday in September, and the JCA intends to add more attraction to the program.

The program is open to children between the ages of 7 to 13. Please call in to register early before limited spaces run out.

HEALTH CARE SYSTEM FAILS MANY ABUSED BLACK WOMEN

By Verolin M. Rickettes-Spence

One of the criterion by which the Canadian society is judged is its ability to make health care services accessible to all people, irrespective of gender or ethnicity. Indeed, the principle of equality of access is a

fundamental right in our society. If women are in sexually abusive relationships, it is fundamental that they are able to access services such as gynecological care, family planning, AIDS and other infectious disease programs. However, there is great concern about the minimal knowledge of health care service

and low level of utilization by abused Black women.

In seeking more accessible service delivery, one recommendation is the utilization of community-based, neighborhood health centres and clinics. Such an approach often helps overcome the victim's fear of big, anonymous hospitals.

First, before health centres and clinics can be more effective, people who work in them must culturally meet the needs of abused women. It is hoped that the Ontario Government's mandatory employment equity legislation, introduced by Minister of Citizenship, Elaine Ziemba, on June 25, 1992, will increase the number of Black women in the health care profession. Greater efforts are needed to recruit and promote Black women with the appropriate training or relevant experience from both inside and outside Canada.

Secondly, before health care centres and clinics can be more effective, people who work in them must be able to meet linguistically the needs of abused women. In the Metropolitan Toronto area alone, there are many African and Asian women who are physically and sexually assaulted women and reluctant to utilize health care services because they cannot speak English; miscommunication can lead to misdiagnosis and incorrect treatment. The Ontario Women's Directorate indicate that sixty-four percent of female sexual assaulted victims do not report their attacks. Physical assault against women is responsible for sixty percent of all female murders.

Given the danger that women experience, it is urged that funding be made available for professional interpreter services and co-operation in the provision of training for health care professionals from diverse cultural and linguistic groups.



Profile on CYFS Manager

Jonice Loudon

I am the recently appointed Manager at the Jamaican Canadian Association's Caribbean Youth and Family Services, located at 2065 Finch Avenue West.

I bring a wide range of skills to the

President continued from ..page 3

take a strong position against criminal activities within our community. The incidence of Blacks shooting Blacks, uncontrolled gang warfare and overall deviant behaviour by Black youth is sickening. We intend to be more vocal on this matter in the future. The general meeting on Sunday, August 23, endorsed strongly the need for community action.

I am proud of our position within the community. I feel that we are cooperating to the fullest extent possible with others with the purpose of raising our profile. Thanks to all members who have written to me with suggestions for improvement. My appreciation to our staff for delivering good community programming, and our united Board for their support and help. I believe that everyone is contributing positively.

agency, having obtained a Diploma in Regulatory Law Administration, a Master of Science in Sociology, and a Bachelor of Science (Honours) Sociology. I am also a State Registered Nurse and State Certified Midwife.

My responsibilities include administration; team building; community liaison; individual, group and family counselling.

My previous experience includes work in England, Nigeria and Jamaica in teaching, health education, project planning and evaluation, and community development. My recent experience includes: counselling facilitating parenting workshops, initiating and facilitating parent support groups, providing consultation and workshops for teachers, which improve their expertise in race relations and strategies for working with children and families from different racial backgrounds.

In addition, I have been actively involved as a volunteer in a number of agencies which address issues relating to health, poverty, education and conflict resolution, also providing information on strategies for planning and incorporating the needs of the Afro-Caribbean Community into service delivery systems.

I am a board member of the Toronto Food Policy Council, Metro Toronto Health District Council and a Mediator at St. Stephens Community House Conflict Resolution Service. I am also a member of the following professional associations: The Canadian Evaluation Society and the Community Development Society.

I am pleased to be a member of the J.C.A. family, and hope to use my knowledge, skills and experience to enhance the goals of the agency in providing service to the community.

Collective For Abused and Assaulted Black Women

Lawrence Heights Community Centre
5 Replin Road, Toronto, Ontario, M6A 2M8

The Collective for Abused and Assaulted Black Women (CAABW) is an alliance of female professionals at the Jamaican Canadian Association concerned about violence against Black women, and its implication for the victims, children, communities and society as a whole.

CAABW was established at the JCA in January 1992 and offers:

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Dudley Laws does not condone violence

by Alex Russell

Over the past six months, I have read articles and heard calls on the radio from individuals of African descent expressing that Dudley Laws does not speak for them. I find it disgusting that a Black person living in this racist society would dwell in such absurdity. Maybe it should be brought to these individuals' attention that it doesn't matter if you are rich, poor, a professional or non-professional, as long as your colour is Black you are categorized as one thing in this society: a "nigger."

Whether we like it or not, Dudley Laws speaks for all Blacks in Metro Toronto; as a matter of fact, for all Blacks in Canada. When the police shoot a Black person they don't ask which country he or she is from. They shoot first because it's a Black person the second they suspect there is some crime being committed.

Dudley is not condoning violence or those individuals who indulge in it. He is merely asking authorities to place some restriction on the way some police officers use their firearms.

Summer Start Co-ordinators' Report

by Darren Thomas

The Summer Start Youth Employment Programme, formally Work Orientation Workshop, was a success once again. The programme employed youth in areas of work in which they expressed interest. The program targeted youth between the ages of 14-18 who are at risk of dropping out of school.

The objective of the programme was to get the youth working in jobs which they might possibly choose as a career in the future. Along with the work experience, the

My children grew up and went to school in Toronto. They have never had problems with the law, but that does not mean that what happens to other Black youth does not affect us as a family, because my son and daughters walk the streets of Toronto and one never knows who will be next to be shot or raped.

In my opinion, the police should be diverting more of their energy to the rapist and children kidnappers and killers instead of looking for Black kids and hauling them off to jail with fabricated stories just because the courts favor what the police says.

When the courts send a 16-year-old kid to jail to be among hardened criminals, they are aggravating the problems because that kid is going to be subjected to the influences of those hardened criminals, which will eventually make him one of them.

We in the Black community need to be more supportive of those who have the courage to speak out against the injustices that our youth encounter in their daily lives. We need to acknowledge the problems and accept the responsibility of solving them. Regardless of who you are, the problems affect us all.

participants attended Friday afternoon lifeskills workshops. The workshops topics included AIDS, S.T.D.'s, staying in school, motivation and determination, budgeting and finances. Through the programme, the participants had the opportunity to make new friends and understand what the world of work is all about. They also learned some of the responsibilities that go along with being employed. Work ethic and attendance were monitored by the program co-ordinators, to ensure accountability. It was a very enlightening experience for me as a co-ordinator, and I'm sure the

Your Credit Union

by Grace Williams

The Jamaican Canadian Association credit union was formed in 1963 by members of the Association who saw the need for a financial institution within our Black community. Our credit union is run by volunteers. (All officers are bonded.)

The credit union is provincially incorporated and is supervised by the Credit Union League and the Ministry of Commercial and Financial Institutions. Both of these entities ensure that the credit union operates within the guidelines of the by-laws. We offer the following services: Savings/Shares, Loans, Term Deposits and RRSP.

Credit unions are one of the most secure financial institutions. In addition there is the Provincial Deposit Insurance Corporation which insures deposits to a maximum of \$60,000 each.

We recommend strongly that you join the credit union today. It is safe, convenient and easy. Save regularly, as little as \$10.00 per week; borrow from your credit union. **REMEMBER!! THE CREDIT UNION IS WHERE YOU BELONG.**

participants came away with a better feeling of hope for the future.

The programme was capped off with the annual Graduation Ceremony at which the participants received diplomas. Awards were given to the participants who performed at an exceptionally high level. It was a pleasure to attend, and the food was great.

All in all, the programme was a success, and the objectives of the programme were met. This is a much needed programme, and hopefully it will be around for many summers to come.

Enquiries can be addressed to the Jamaican-Canadian Association (Toronto) Credit Union, 1621 Dupont Street, Toronto, Ontario M6P 3S8. Telephone 535-4476.

by Nydia Walwyn

Summer Start, a program funded by the federal government, combines educational, cultural and recreational activities for youth, as well as provide them with valuable work experience.

I was privileged to be employed as a Summer Start co-ordinator working out of the Caribbean Youth and Family Services, a satellite office of the Jamaican Canadian Association. I made my targets the Black youth in the Jane and Finch area. After interviewing over 35 applicants, 10 were selected. An orientation week was conducted and they began the 4 days' work experience and 1-day workshop routine that was to continue for the rest of the summer.

During the summer, the group attended workshops conducted by organizations such as Goals for Youth, Black C.A.P. (coalition on Aids Prevention), The Urban Alliance on Race Relations and the Canada Employment Centre. Each presentation helped the participants acquire skills ranging from how to handle a job interview to the benefits of practising safe sex. Some workshops elicited much discussion, and the desire of these young people to learn was apparent. They responded well to Gary Francis from Goals for Youth and to Tessa from Black C.A.P.

To fulfill the recreational needs of the program, the group travelled to Wild Water Kingdom and Pleasure Valley. It was a great experience for all those who were involved. The participants went horseback riding, roller gliding, as well as made good use of the water slide.

Although I witnessed some very positive changes this summer, I also heard some legitimate concerns that these young people had. They were concerned about the Black-run businesses who, when approached, were not enthusiastic about helping out with the program. They were disappointed the way the media constantly depicted them; and the most distressing of their concerns was the belief that there isn't any where for young Black persons to receive justice and achieve success without compromising themselves. I was given a relatively short period of time to work with these young people, and what I see both scared and uplifted me. We have some angry youth. Our community needs to help these young people channel their anger at the injustices of the society into a determination to succeed despite the obstacles.

CARIBBEAN CANADIAN SENIORS GROUP

1621 Dupont Street

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The Black Coalition for AIDS Prevention is a coalition of Black community organizations who come together to address the issue of AIDS in our communities.

New Breast Screening Program For Women Age 50 and Over

Submitted by Sheila Raymond

If you think you are too busy to take care of your health, think about this: A test that takes only one half hour every two years could save your life. Quite simply breast screening saves lives.

One in ten women will get breast cancer during her lifetime and the risk increases with age. Breast cancer is the leading cause of cancer death in Canadian women. Each year in Ontario 1700 women die from breast cancer. NOW WE CAN CHANGE THIS.

The good news is that breast cancer can be cured if found early. Women aged **50 and over** can greatly improve their chances of survival by getting regular breast screening exams.

While there may be some debate about the effectiveness of mammography in women under age 50, there is very strong evidence of benefit in women aged 50 and over. On the basis of this evidence Breast

Screening Programs are being introduced across Canada. These programs have the potential of reducing breast cancer deaths by up to 40%.

The new Ontario Breast Screening Program, funded by the Ontario Ministry of Health and supported by the Canadian Cancer Society is now available in Metro Toronto.

Breast Screening at Ontario Breast Screening Program Centres includes:

physical breast examination by a trained nurse-examiner

mammogram (low dose breast x-ray)

information about monthly breast self-examination

Women are informed of the results within two weeks. This service is free of charge.

Women may refer themselves by calling the centre closest to them or be referred by their doctor.

For a breast screening for women age 50 and over please call.

North York Women's Screening Centre
100 Sheppard Avenue East, Suite 140
North York, Ontario
M2N 6N5
Tel: 512-0601

Scarborough Women's Screening Centre
10 Milner Business Court, Suite 103
Scarborough, Ontario
M1B 3C6
Tel: 298-2626

Toronto Centre
110 Bloor Street West, Suite 200
Toronto, Ontario
M5S 2W7
Tel: 928-1379

Call Toll-free - 1-800-668-9304

THE PAL PROGRAM NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

If you are 18 years of age and over, responsible, respectable, sensitive to the needs of Black youth and willing to commit 3-4 hours per week for a year; please call 535-4476/740-1558

JCA always need good people.
Help us. Call us.
Come grow with us!

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Members of the Theatrical Group Reality Zone.

Reality Zone Presents: "A Loud Silence"

by Brendon Mark, Sharon Smith and Catherine Glen

The Reality Zone crew presented "A Loud Silence" at the Jamaican Canadian Centre Thursday, August 20; and members of the JCA and JOY programs asked us to write something about ourselves and our play for the newsletter.

Reality Zone consists of 10 young writers/performers and directors brought together by M.T.H.A. Neighbourhood Theatre and the J.O.Y. program. We've been together for a period of 6 weeks collaborating on script writing, set design, theatre workshops and a theatre presentation. With the facilitation of professional theatre artist, Catherine Glen, the 9 performers have created an original, new play-- "A Loud Silence".

A Loud Silence speaks to the realities of many young people living in Metro Toronto. Drugs, teen pregnancy, AIDS, police brutality and family relations are some of the elements found in the "Zone". We constructed this production to both educate and entertain youth and adult audiences. Our objectives are to challenge the morals and values in today's society and to acknowledge our desperate need for change.

We've had a number of performances in community centres and theatres across Metro Toronto, with an overwhelming response to the real-life characters and situations we portray. There has been a strong interest expressed in seeing REALITY ZONE continue to perform and spread the positive message. We hope to achieve this with performances at benefits and perhaps in schools in the up-coming months.

As a crew we were brought together for an official employment period of 8 weeks - but after our time together, getting to know one another, developing skills in performance, communication and in team building we are wrapping up this project not only with job experience, but with the experience of becoming family and friends.

The J.O.Y./MTHA programme has been a tremendous success for us. We hope other participants have had equally good experiences this summer.

Watch for REALITY ZONE again!

Reality Zone includes Patrine Bowen, Dunisha Brown, Kato Charles, Dana Davidson, Brenda Mark, Christian McFarlane, Sharon Smith, Rhonda Webb, Richard Wedderburn, Artistic Director Catherine Glen.

JCA UP-COMING EVENTS 1992

September 20 - Seniors' Dinner

October 03 - Eva Smith Bursary Awards - For information, ph. 490-0628

October 13 - Stratford Festival Trip

October 31 - Educational Conference for parents, students, educators, and concerned citizens. Post Secondary Education; Is It and Avenue of Success?

October 16 - Sherry Party

October 17 - John Brooks Scholarship Awards (Holiday Inn)

October 24 - Credit Union Dinner

October 31 - Educational Conference for parents and students. Post Secondary Education: An Avenue to Success, JCA Centre.

November 29 - Quarterly Membership Meeting

November 13 - Film Night

December 31 - New Year's Eve Dinner & Dance

February Black History Month

JCA Bingo
2424 Finch Avenue West
(FINCH BINGO COUNTY)

Saturday Sep 5th, 2:00 p.m.
Saturday Sep 19th, 2:00 p.m.
Friday Sep 25th, 7:15 p.m.
Saturday Sep 26th, 2:00 p.m.

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